



1732

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hans-Ullrich SCHMIDT, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/022,576

Group Art Unit: 1732

Filed: December 17, 2001

Examiner:

For: COEXTRUSION NOZZLE ARRANGEMENT

RECEIVED
APR 17 2002
TC 1700

Attorney Docket No.: 3993.004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application which were cited by the Examiner in the corresponding German patent application. Copies of the documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and copies of the search reports, are provided herewith. Applicants are not aware of any English language documents corresponding to the German language documents.

1. European Patent Application No. 0 243 516 A1
2. German Patent No. DE 40 10 404 A1
3. World Patent No. 96/28294 A1
4. US Patent 5,908,642

Document 1

European Patent Application No. 0 243 516 A1 (Grull et al)
entitled "Apparatus for the extrusion of a double-wall plastic
pipe" published on November 4, 1987.

This reference teaches that, in the case of an apparatus for the extrusion of such a pipe from a straight melt stream, fed from only one extruder, the hollow mandrel (7) dividing this melt stream into two coaxial tubular melt streams is held and fixed with the aid of the legs of the mandrel support (3) bearing the inner mandrel (6).

Applicants are not aware of any English language documents corresponding to Document 1.

Document 2

German Patent No. DE 40 10 404 A1 (Lupke) entitled ``Plastic twin-wall hose - extruded with air gap between inner and outer walls'' published on October 11, 1990.

Document 2 teaches an extruder, e.g. for the production of plastic hoses, esp. double-wall polyethylene hoses with an outer layer of HDPE and an inner layer of LDPE has two concentric extrusion channels which are separated by an insulation from each other. The preferred insulation is formed by an air gap. This ensures that the higher temps. necessary for the HDPE do not fuse the LDPE.

Document 3

WIPO Application No. WO 96/28294 published on September 19, 1996.

The relevance of Document 3 can be seen from the English language Abstract and the figures. Further, US Patent 5,908,642 (Document 4) is an English language patent in the same family as Document 3.

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Document 4

US Patent 5,908,642 (Veen) entitled "Extrusion Head for Plastics Extruder" published June 1, 1999.

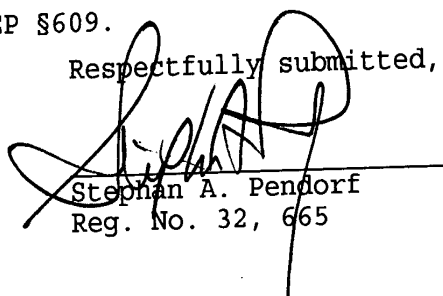
Document 4 is in the English language.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after three months from the application's filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, therefore no Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedated or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,


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Dated: April 11, 2002

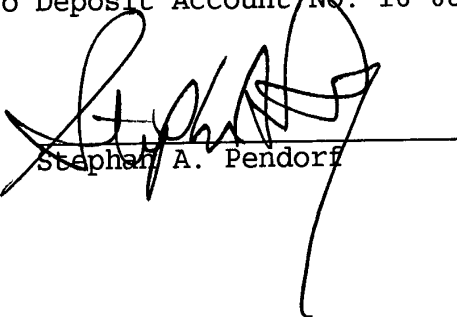
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Form PTO-1449, including four documents, for U.S. Application No. 10/022,576 filed December 17, 2001, were deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 11, 2002.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.



Stephen A. Pendorf